

City life in the USA:

- Life in the North: there were no official segregation laws. African Americans and Whites rarely mixed. Communities were formed by each ethnic group based on geography in a town not a law forbidding Co-habitation. Children usually went to separate schools as well.
- Life in the South: "Jim Crow Laws" enforced segregation of schools, hospitals, public transportation, theaters and restaurants. Southern states justified the use of segregation by the wording of the Constitution. Communities were formed by each ethnic group based on laws not geography.

Supreme Court Cases:

- **Plessy vs. Ferguson:** Supreme Court rules "separate but equal is legal, as long as equal facilities are provided"
- **Brown vs. Board of Education:** in 1954, the Supreme Court rules that in educational institutions, "separate but equal" has no legal protection and all public school must desegregate immediately.
- **Miranda vs. Arizona:** In 1966, the Supreme Court rules that if a suspect is arrested, they must be told their constitutional rights prior to being arrested or it violates the suspect's 5th amendment rights.
- **Tinker vs. Des Moines School Board:** In 1969 the Supreme Court rules that it is illegal to suspend students for peacefully protesting the Vietnam War.
- **Hernandez vs. Texas:** in 1954, the Supreme Court rules that Mexican Americans cannot be held from serving on jury duty when the trial involves another Mexican American.

Civil Rights Groups:

- **NAACP:** National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, created by W.E.B. DuBois and Jane Adams to eradicate prejudice and to secure complete equality before the law.
- **NOW:** National Organization for Women, created by Pauli Murray and Shirley Chisholm in 1966 to fight for equal rights for females. Attempted to get Congress to pass the ERA.
- **AIM:** American Indian Movement, civil rights group for Native Americans who sometimes used violent and/or non-peaceful methods to gain rights for Indians in America.
- **AWD:** Americans With Disabilities, civil rights group formed to fight for the educational, legal and health related protection of persons living with deformities and/or disabilities. Have helped to get such reforms as IEP's and accessible entrances in public places.
- **UFW:** United Farm Workers union created by Cesar Chavez. The UFW fights for higher wages and better working conditions for migrant workers through peaceful protests.
- **AARP:** American Association of Retired Persons founded in 1958 by Dr. Ethel Andrus, civil rights group who fight for the rights of persons over the age of 65. Have been instrumental in securing retirement ages and protecting health benefits for elderly Americans.

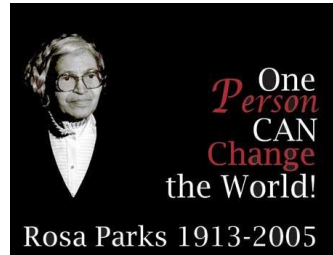
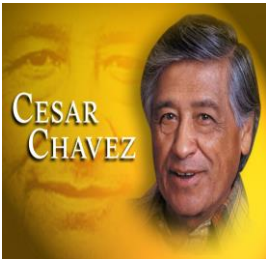
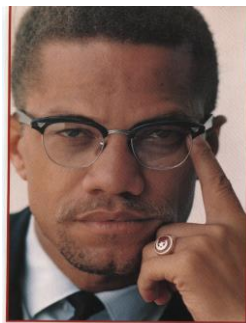
Major Events:

- In 1947, **Jackie Robinson** becomes the first African American athlete to play professional sports in America. Hired by the Brooklyn Dodgers, the future hall of famer broke many records and paved the way for other African Americans to join what were once considered 'white only' professional sports.
- **The Montgomery Bus Boycotts:** in 1955, Rosa Parks is forced to change seats on a public bus but refuses. The driver of the bus has her arrested for public disturbance. A Baptist preacher named Martin Luther King Jr. organizes a peaceful protest of public transportation which lasts for 381 days.
- **The Little Rock Nine:** in 1957 nine students tried to attend a former white only school in Arkansas. The governor of the state used the National Guard to block their entrance. The stand off continued for days until President Eisenhower ordered the US Army to desegregate the school and protect the nine students.
- **The Greensboro sit-ins:** were a series of nonviolent protests which led to the Woolworth's department store chain reversing its policy of racial segregation in the Southern United States. While not the first sit-ins of the African-American Civil Rights Movement, the Greensboro sit-ins were an instrumental action, leading to increased national sentiment at a crucial period in US history. The primary event took place at the Greensboro, North Carolina Woolworth's store, now the International Civil Rights Center and Museum.

Kennedy & Johnson:

- Kennedy Assassination: Nov 22, 1963 in Dallas Texas. The president is killed by Lee Harvey Oswald. Two days later, Oswald is killed by Jack Ruby. Death of Kennedy was taken as the death of a young and caring America. One of Kennedy's main political reforms was racial reform.
- Age of Johnson: Tried to create a "Great Society" which would expand opportunity and raise the standard of living for the economically oppressed. Passed a ton of legislation from Kennedy's administration, began to win the hearts of many until he escalated America's role in the Vietnam War.

Pictures:



Ethel Andrus

